

THE GREENVILLE ENTERPRISE.

Devoted to News, Politics, Intelligence, and the Improvement of the State and Country.

JOHN C. BAILEY, EDITOR & PROP.

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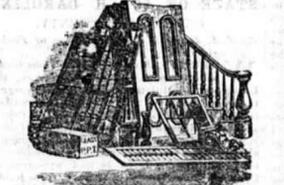
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NOTICE.

ALL persons indebted to the Estate of W. H. HOVEY, deceased, and those indebted to the late firm of W. H. HOVEY & CO., are requested to make payment between this and the first day of December next. It being absolutely necessary to close the books of the Estate of the late W. H. HOVEY, and those who neglect to do so hereby given notice and attorney Probate Judge of C. A. TOWNES, Discharge as Decided and THOMAS WOOD, Clerk of the Court, to appear on the 6th day of December, 1872, to escape the consequences of a decree of the Court, to wit: the iron

REMINISCENCES OF PUBLIC MEN.

BY EX-GOVERNOR D. P. FERRY. (Continued from last week.)

THE STATE CONVENTION.

In the Fall of 1852, a Convention of the State was called for the purpose of nullifying the tariff acts of Congress. Gov. Henry Middleton, Col. Thos. P. Brockman, Silas F. Whitten and myself were elected members of the convention from the district of Greenville. Judge Earle, Dr. Wm. Butler, Wm. Thurston and Col. Barj. Arnold were the candidates of the Nullification party. The Union majority at the election was about four to one in Greenville. Gov. Middleton, before his mission to Russia, had been a citizen of this district, and owned a large landed estate, which he sold to Geo. W. Earle, Esq. The summer preceding the election the Governor had spent in Greenville, and as it was well known that he was a staunch Union man, we determined to put him in nomination for the State Convention.

Sunday evening before the convention met in Columbia, Gov. Middleton and myself went from the Congaree Hotel, where we were boarding, to see Judge Huger, at Hunt's Hotel, near the State House, where most of the Union members were staying. The Judge spoke of the propriety of our not taking seats in the convention. He said it was improper for us to do so, and that he wished a meeting of the Union members that night to determine on the proper course to be pursued. After supper we all assembled, about thirty in number, delegates and visitors. Judge Richardson was called to the chair, and Judge Huger made a long speech against the delegates taking their seats in the convention. He said he had been sent by the Union party of Charleston to urge this course. "If we take our seats in the convention," said the Judge, "we shall be the means of keeping the Nullification party together. We shall hear things said there that will call for blood!" He said it would be impossible to sit there and listen to their speeches without resenting what is said. "If they talk as I suppose they will, blood must be shed! It cannot be avoided."

Mr. Wilkins spoke next, and said, that although he had been sent by his constituents to take his seat in the convention, yet, if the Union party thought it better not to do so, he would take the responsibility of following their advice. The proposition of Judge Huger was opposed at some length by Col. Evine and Col. Phillips, of Chesterfield. I expressed my willingness to acquiesce in any course that might be adopted, but that I thought it better to take our seats. Judge Richardson opposed the proposition, and urged strongly the propriety of going into the convention. It was then agreed to postpone the further consideration of the question till the next morning, at 9 o'clock. We met the next day agreeable to our adjournment. Judge Huger was well and did not attend our meeting. It was decided that we should take our seats. The next question was, whether an oath would be required of the delegates, and if so, what would be the nature of it. It seems that the Union members had some suspicion that an oath might be required, which would be inconsistent with their allegiance to the Federal Government. In order to ascertain this fact, a committee was appointed, consisting of Judge Richardson, Gov. Manning and myself.

Judge David Johnson then addressed the caucus, and informed us that he had just returned from the State of Georgia, where he had been sent as a delegate by the Union party. Chancellor Harper was sent as a delegate to the Nullification party. On their arrival in Milledgeville, Judge Johnson addressed a note to the State Convention, which he found in session, and went before them to explain his views and those of his party in South Carolina. He said two thirds of the people of Georgia were of the Union party. The Nullifiers called themselves "Resistance Men," but would not assume the odious cognomen by which their political brethren in South Carolina were known. Both parties had organized clubs and associations. He had ascertained that the South Carolina Nullifiers would go into a Southern Convention if it was proposed by Georgia.

The State Convention was organized at 10 o'clock, and was indeed a most dignified assembly, containing most of the great men of both parties in South Carolina. They were fine looking gentlemen, and showed the greatest respect for each other throughout the whole sitting of the Convention. No oath was required of the members, and could not have been with any sort of propriety. Gen. Hamilton, then Governor of the State, was elected President. His address on taking the chair was a fine and appropriate one. The members were called on to enroll their names, by districts, and the first district called was Greenville. As I had headed the ticket elected from this district, it gave me the honor of having my name at the head of the parchment Roll.

A committee of twenty-one was appointed by the President to take into consideration the tariff, and report thereon. The convention met on Wednesday to hear the report. The ordinance of nullification was also reported, and expressed very frankly the purpose and intention of the convention. I remember Judge Huger said that he had cured him of his indisposition. He had read it in his sick bed, and immediately felt well enough to get up and dress! But he said the address on the subject of the tariff reported at the same time was most ably and dexterously drawn. The ordinance of Nullification was drawn by Chancellor Harper, and the report on the tariff by Gen. Hayne. The address to the people

of South Carolina was written by Robt. T. Turnbull, Esq., and declared in plain language that no one should dare resist it. The address to the people of the several States was from the pen of Gov. McDuffie, and was really drawn with great ability.

The Union members held their caucus every night and made speeches, eliciting the views of each other; and in this way we were enabled to get harmoniously and as a unit in the convention. I submitted, one night, a resolution, which I proposed to offer in the convention, referring all the action of the convention to the people for ratification or rejection. This was opposed by Judge Huger in a long speech. I replied, and said, if the people of South Carolina were disposed to adopt the proceedings of the convention, however objectionable they might be to my feelings and judgment, I was disposed to acquiesce in their action. Thirty years after this, when South Carolina seceded from the Federal Union, I put in practice the resolution I then proposed to adopt. Judge O'Neill and Gov. Manning both spoke against the resolution. Judge Richardson advocated it, and Gov. Middleton was in favor of its adoption, but did not speak. Finding the opposition so strong, I withdrew the resolution.

It was proposed in the Union caucus to send delegates to Virginia and North Carolina, and agreed to. Judge Huger and Mr. Poinssett were appointed. The subject of the "test oath" in the ordinance of nullification was most earnestly discussed in caucus. It proposed to swear a Judge to enforce the ordinance of nullification before he was allowed to sit on the trial of a case arising under it. Some of the Judges declared they would never take it, and others gave no expression of opinion on the subject. Judge Huger was terrible in his denunciations of the test oath. He said when his rights had to be adjudged by a perjured Judge and jury, it was a mockery of all judicial trials and justice was at an end. The ordinance of Nullification was to go into operation in February. The convention then adjourned, hoping and expecting that Congress would make some modification of the tariff before the day when the ordinance was to go into operation.

Towards the latter part of December, 1852, the Union party of South Carolina met in convention in Columbia during the sitting of the Legislature, and commenced their session in the Presbyterian Church. The venerable Col Taylor, father of Gov. Joe Taylor, who had distinguished himself as a gallant officer of the revolutionary war, was elected President of the Convention. Most of the distinguished Union men were members of this convention. Resolutions were called for, and I submitted a parcel adopted at a public meeting in Greenville, as an indication of public sentiment amongst my constituents. They were received, with others of a similar character, to a caucus at which Judge Richardson presided. Judge O'Neill made a speech and advised moderation. Judge Huger replied with great heat and ability. Judge David Johnson then took the floor, and moved an adjournment. The next morning he spoke for some time, urging prudence and moderation. Judge Huger replied in a noble speech. He spoke of the tyranny and oppression of the dominant party, the disgrace of the test oath and the horrors of disunion. He completely demolished Judge Johnson's argument and appeal in favor of moderation. Whilst speaking, he said "Can I be called a freeman, when I am to be tried by a perjured Judge and a packed jury?" This expression met with great applause from the whole convention. If there had been any disposition on the part of Judges O'Neill and Johnson to flatter or waver in this matter, the speech of Judge Huger settled them. There was no flinching after that speech. I walked with Judge Johnson from the committee room to the Church. He said to me, "we shall all agree," and then read a letter just received from Col. Wm. Cumming, of Georgia, in which he deprecated any union rising of the people. "This," said Colonel Cumming, "would only result in murderous broils." He urged on us to wait for the general government to put down nullification by some signal act at once and forever. There were few greater or wiser men than Col. Wm. Cumming in America at that time, and not one more patriotic, gallant and honorable. Judge Johnson told me not to go to the inauguration of Gov. Hayne, who was to be the first one to take the test oath, when he qualified, as it would be countenancing moral perjury.

When the convention assembled, Col. Meminger submitted a plan for organizing the Union party throughout the State for self-defence and protection. "Washington Societies" were to be formed in each district, with as many branches in every neighborhood as possible. Each society was to have a President and three Vice-Presidents. In case of emergency, and in defence of their constitution and legal rights, these societies were to become military companies. Mr. Poinssett was commander in chief, with division officers in different sections of the State. Col. Robt. Cunningham was appointed for the upper division of the State. This looked very much as if we were preparing for war.

Mr. Poinssett made a speech and told us that he had what he was going to say from Gen. Jackson himself. Gov. Hamilton, Gen. Hayne, McDuffie and Col. Drayton had taken a very active part in the election of Gen. Jackson, and after the election they were invited to the General's room. He told them that he was his intention to have had a South Carolinian in his Cabinet, but on reflection he did not think it advisable to make such an appointment. It would appear as if too many Federal honors were given to South Carolina. He himself, was a Vice President, was a South Carolinian; Mr. Poinssett, who held the highest mission in Spanish America, was a South Carolinian,

and Gov. Middleton, who held one of the most important missions in Europe, was a citizen of South Carolina. If, therefore, he should give another South Carolinian a seat in his Cabinet, he would not be doing justice to the other States. He expressed his great obligations to them for their exertions in his election, and regretted that he could not consistently, with his duty to the whole country, reward any of them for their kindness and friendship. Mr. Poinssett said this interim had produced a coldness between the President and all the South Carolina delegation, except Col. Drayton.

Mr. Pettigree made a speech the first night of our meeting, which was a very beautiful one. He said, "Nullification is not the State, nor have I ever believed that my country consisted alone in the swamps of the upper part of the State, or the rocks of the middle State; but I have been taught to believe that my country was a wide and rational system of liberty." This expression was nobly commented on by Judge Huger. He said he had remarked a thousand times that he would go with the State; but denied that the State was then acting. The people would lay down his life for South Carolina, but not for the tyrants who ruled her. He said he would not sheath his sword in the bosom of a brother, but his own bosom should become the sheath of a sword before he would submit to tyranny and oppression.

Two letters were read to the Convention from Gen. Jackson, one to Mr. Poinssett and the other to Col. O'Hanlon. In these letters he said the Governor's Message was rebellious throughout, and if he raised an army, it would be treason. He pledged himself to use all the power of the government to enforce the laws and put down nullification. I saw and read the letter to Col. O'Hanlon many years afterwards. It was in Jackson's own hand writing, and was exceedingly well written. It was a long letter, and breathed the same spirit and sentiments which were immediately afterwards so nobly and eloquently expressed in his proclamation. In organizing the Union party, Mr. Poinssett said if guns were needed, the arsenal at Augusta would be open to us. "Or," said he, "if you want money to sustain yourselves in defending the country, it shall be supplied to you."

On my return home, I met Col. Francis H. Huger at Newberry, C. H. He was the liberator of Marquis La Fayette, from the dungeon of Olmutz, and as pure and gallant a gentleman as ever drew the breath of life. He spoke very freely in regard to the action of the State Convention and Legislature, and said that if no one else in South Carolina took the test oath, it would place Gov. Hayne in no enviable position. The Convention was to be held in Columbia, meaning that he would never take the test oath. Judge O'Neill told me in Columbia, that Judge Earle was so unwilling to take it, as he or Judge Richardson was.

(Continued next week.)

DRINK! No man ever became a drunkard, lived a drunkard's life, died a drunkard's death, and filled a drunkard's grave, as a matter of free choice. No one ever became an excessive drinker who did not begin by the habit of being a moderate, a very moderate drinker. If it were the habit of all to take the first step, and thus not become moderate drinkers, the unutterable horrors, and woe, the destitution and crime, which result from this master evil of intemperance, would cease. Wives and children and friends and communities would not mourn over lost ones thus dishonored and loved. But it is the habit of drinking becoming the law of their being and of their daily life, the lack of resisting power resulting from this terrible thralldom, the fever of habitual temptation and appetite, which causes that yearly death-march of sixty thousand of our people to the saddest of all graves, followed as mourners by half a million of worse than widowed wives and worse than orphaned children.

AN EXTENSIVE COUNTY.—The county of Augusta, in Virginia, once embraced the States of Illinois, Ohio, Kentucky, Indiana and Michigan. When Virginia was named after Elizabeth, daughter of Anne Boleyn and Henry VIII.—he of the many wives—it was the proud boast of her then few inhabitants that her territorial limits extended from the Atlantic to the Pacific and up and down to each pole. When battling for American independence, with a handful of hungry, ill-clad and worse armed patriots against the disciplined legions of the British king, it was, in case of being overpowered, to the mountains of Augusta that George Washington proposed to retreat to make a last stand for "liberty and the rights of man." Virginia, though she gave away an empire and was despoiled of half her territory by iniquitous legislation, has no reason to be cast down—nor is she. "There is life in the old land yet."—Richmond Whig.

The Bank of Newberry paid out three hundred and ten thousand dollars for cotton transactions during the month of October.

The Negro vs. The Carpet-bagger.

The contest for the United States Senatorship promises to be a very earnest and interesting one. There are three Richmonds already in the field, and the scramble for the position will, in all probability, be confined to them. There is first J. J. Patterson, Esq., of Blue Ridge fame, and generally known by the sobriquet of "Honest John," with which it would seem he has been dubbed upon the *locus a non locuto* principle. He is a genial sort of man; seems to bear no malice against any person, party or people; is devoid, apparently, of any political or other convictions, except pecuniary, upon which he has very decided views, and always acts up to them: He would keep out of the lobby and apply himself more to his own legitimate, private business, and less to the development of the resources of the State in which he occasionally manifests an alarming politeness to members of the Press, our sarcasms are softened in spite of us, and we can only say of him that we wish he would go back to the bosom of Cameron, from which he came, and leave poor South Carolina alone. She has been well nigh bled to death already.

A second candidate for senatorial honors, is our excellent Governor Robert K. Scott, who "has been running our State" very rapidly for four years past. We had hoped that he was played out politically, and such has been the common opinion. He does not seem to agree with us however, and, we hear, imagines that he has still a strong hold upon the hearts of the colored people for whom he has done so much in proving to the world how worthy they were of self government, as shown in the selection of himself for their first Chief Magistrate. There is one good reason perhaps why he should be sent to the Senate, and that is that by so doing, his presence will be saved from South Carolina.

The third candidate is R. B. Elliott, at present a member of Congress from the Third District, and probably the most popular colored man with his race in any part of the State. He is running on his muscle merely while his opponents do not mind mainly upon the power of money. So report says.

It is no light of ours. None of the candidates can be regarded as in any way fitted to represent the Conservative elements in the State. But we can never refrain from taking sides when a question is raised, which, we believe, can effect the welfare of the State, even in the smallest degree. "Off judgment, and our inclination lead us to wish for Elliott's success in the Senatorial contest.—We do this in the first place because Elliott is a colored man, and in the second place because he is able and is no worse, if not far better in point of character, than the other two. He has a constituency—the colored people of the State—they have none, unless the few dozen political adventurers, with whom they are allied, may be so regarded. In right, the white people ought to have the choice of one of the Senators, and should place the best and ablest man in the State in that important position. If we cannot get a capable and honorable white man, we next prefer to see a representative of the negro race there. It has been our observation that a place in Congress, and particularly in the Senate, has a strong tendency to liberalize the views of Southern Radicals. We would like to see the experiment tried upon Elliott.—He has great influence here with his race, and should his mind be ever honestly and earnestly turned in that direction, he could do much towards the amelioration of the miserable condition of our local government. The atmosphere of the Senate might probably be wholesome to him, and he in turn do valuable service to the State.—The others could scarce effect any good, even if they had the desire. [Carolinian.]

Colonel William Kent, of Concord, N. H., voted on the 5th inst., for the fourteenth time, covering a period of fifty-six years, for the President of the United States. A Washington telegram to the New York Herald says: "It is probable that Judge Settle, of North Carolina, will succeed Justice Nelson of the Supreme Court, who is about to retire on account of old age. The South has had no representative on the Supreme Bench since the death of Justice Wayne, who was from Georgia."

Capital Hints on the Situation.

Don Piatt, in his vigorous and sprightly paper, the Washington Capital, which though very personal in its tone, contains a weekly compendium of wit and common sense exceptional in newspapers anywhere, thus philosophizes on a recent "impertinence" of the last "Lost Cause."

We know of few pursuits so profane and stupid as that indulged in by certain journalists in accounting for a defeat after the event. The cause that brought the Liberal movement to grief may be stated in a few words.

Mr. Greeley failed of an election from a lack of votes. These were Democratic votes. The Democrats did not come out except in Pennsylvania, and there they sold out. Had the Democrats sustained Mr. Greeley as they would have supported one of their own party, the venerable philosopher would now be the President elect. We called attention to this again and again, and saw in the possibility of our only weakness. Had the Democrats voted in the October elections, we would have carried Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Indiana. But they respectfully declined.

The only satisfaction left us—and it is exceedingly grim—is that the Administration people might have saved their money, and perhaps their souls, by abstaining from fraud—their victory was assured them. People are slow to learn that a difference in politics does not originate so much in an antagonism of opinion as in one of feeling.—There was no reason in principle why a Democrat should not vote for Horace Greeley; but there was strong motive for his refusal to feel.

What a fearful thought it must be to a Republican that Grant might die! And we would suggest in this connection that provision be now made for an assignor or successor, so as to preserve the organization in view of such a terrible disaster. We must not be understood as claiming in this anything for the mere name of Democrat. We only refer to the great mass of voters now recognized under that title.—They may be under the impression, but they will yet remain the men who came into this world with no preparation for their coming, and are forced to subsist by the labor of their hands or the cunning of their craft. These unproved people regard with wrath their more wealthy brethren who, rich and well born, have certain vested rights and privileges denied the many. They hate taxation, instinctively fight extravagance, and are disposed to hang the defaulter; not so much from any extra virtue in themselves, but for that they feel, if they do not know, that the defalcation emptied their pockets.

This is the governing element, and, when in power, the conservative force of the government. And it is further grim comfort to know that our present financial policy increases daily the number of the unprovided for. The rich get fewer in number and stronger in means, while the poor grow poorer and more populous. In the meantime, all we have to say is, that if the freeborn American people can stand what they have submitted to, we can.

"I GOT NUFF MIT SUGH FOOLISHNESS."—It is pleasant to become a parent; twice as pleasant, perhaps, to be blessed with twins; but when it comes to triplets, we are a little dubious. Now, there dwells in Jefferson country, Wisconsin, a worthy German, who a few years ago was presented by his wife with a son. Hans said to her: "Katrine, dat ish good."

A couple of years later, the good woman placed before his astonished gaze a bonnie pair of twins. "Vell," said Hans, "dat wash pesser ash der oder time; I trinks more ash ten glass peer on dat."

But the good woman next time gave birth to triplets, and that made him "shpoke mit his mouth shust a liddle."

"Mein Got, Katrine! vat ish der matter on you? Pesser you shopt dis bizness fore der come more ash a village full. I got nuff mit such foolishness!" No later returns have been received. Secretary Fish is spoken of as probable Minister to England. Two acres of ground in Indiana, Iowa yielded 500 bushels of sweet potatoes. Why is a circus rider like an aristocrat? Because they both make good circles.

A Lively Time—A Texas Frontiersman's Encounter with the Indians.

A letter from Rev. A. J. Potter, the plucky Methodist preacher, received in this city by the last mail, gives the following particulars of a fight he had a few days ago with the Indians: "I have at last come in contact with the Indians. I had a fight with four of the red devils and whipped them without getting a scratch. I left Frio Canon on the morning of the 25th to go to the Sabinal Canon. After traveling some miles, I crossed Cherry creek; my road then led through a broken country of rocky defiles covered with brush, with intervening spaces of open ground. I had learned that there were Indians in the country, and was on the look-out."

"I saw them passing up a ravine, aiming to intercept and waylay me, where my road led through a gap in the mountain. I had four mules with me—two to my buggy and two I was leading. I got out and tied my mules, took my gun and went on in advance, to see what I could discover. I had only gone a short distance when I looked down an open space between the thickets, and saw four Indians slipping along toward the place where I knew they intended to intercept me. I was still unobserved; when they passed to the next opening they paused; I raised my gun to fire at them, but the cap snapped. The Indian heard it, turned toward me, and was just in the act of raising his gun to shoot me, but my gun fired, and his fell to the ground. At that moment another one of them fired at me. They then picked up the gun, and all ran off. I think my bullet struck the Indian in the right shoulder or arm. I then ran back to my buggy, and drove out behind some thick brush, near the foot of the mountain. I had good shelter, except from the side of the mountain. The scoundrels soon appeared on the side of the mountain, and fired one shot down at me, and I gave them two in return.—They then went back the way they came. I knew they expected I would try to run back to the Frio, and were intending to cut off my retreat, and run through the gap in the mountains to the open country, and had no more trouble from them."

Evils of Gossip. I have known a country society which withered away all to nothing, under dry rot of gossip only. Friendships once as firm as granite, dissolved to jelly, and then ran away to water, only because of this; love that promised a future as enduring as heaven, and as stable as truth, evaporated into a morning mist that turned to a day's long tears, only because of this. A father and a son were set foot to foot with the fiery breath of anger that would never cool between them, only because of this; and a husband and his young wife, each straining at the luted lash, which in the beginning had been the golden bondage of a God-blessed love sat mournfully by the side of the grave where all their love and joy lay buried, and only because of this. I have seen faith transformed to mean-doubt, hope give place to grim despair, and charity take on itself the features of black malevolence, all because of the spell words of scandal, and the magic mutterings of gossip.

Great crimes work great wrongs and the deeper tragedies of the life spring from its larger passion; but woeeful and most melancholy are the uncatalogued tragedies that issue from gossip and detraction; most mournful the shipwreck often made of noble natures and lovely lives by the bitter winds and dead salt-waters of slander.—So easy to say, yet so hard to disprove—throwing on the innocent, and punishing them as guilty if unable to pluck out the stings they never see, and to silence words they never hear. Gossip and slander are the deadliest and cruellest weapons man has for his brother's hurt.—All the Year Round.

Senator Trumbull has no opinions to express as to the future course or policy of the Republican party.

PROGRESS OF THE AIR-LINE RAILROAD.—The Atlanta correspondent of the Savannah News writes that the Atlanta and Richmond Air-Line Railroad will be completed and in running order to the Savannah River by the 25th of December, and to Charlotte, N. C., by March. This will divert a large portion of Northern Travel from the State Road, and thus still further diminish the revenues of the lessees of that thoroughfare.